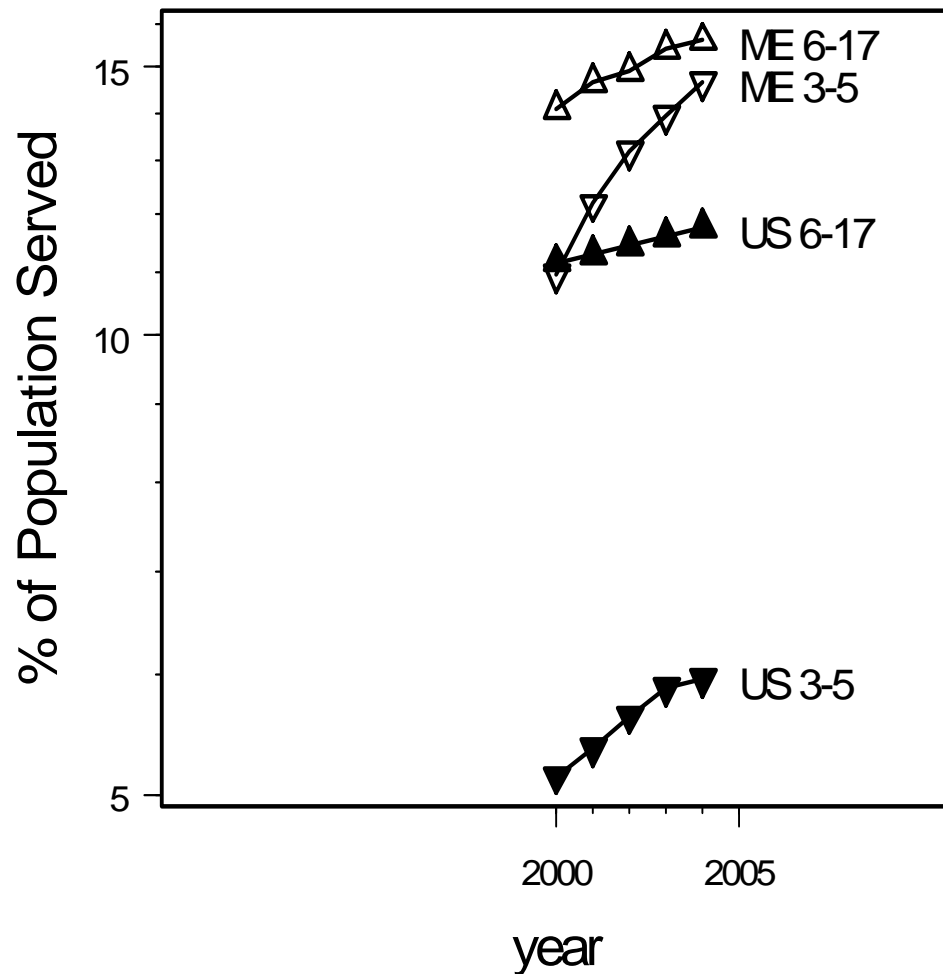


Some Data on Minding the Gap, Enrollment Decline, and Finding the Money

Alan Cobo-Lewis, PhD
Subcommittee to Study Early Childhood Special Education
September 7, 2006

Mind the Gap

(but there isn't much of one)

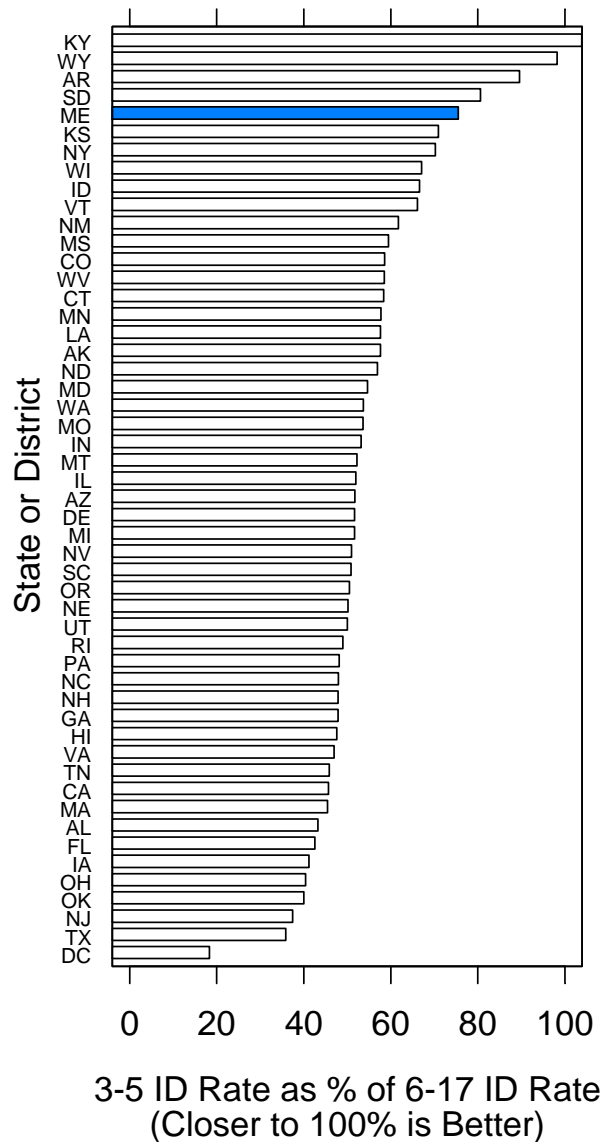


Maine (CDS) does much better than the US at large in ChildFind for 3-5-year-olds

Source: ideadata.org

Charge 1:
Effectiveness,
efficiency, &
compliance of
current system

More on Minding the Gap



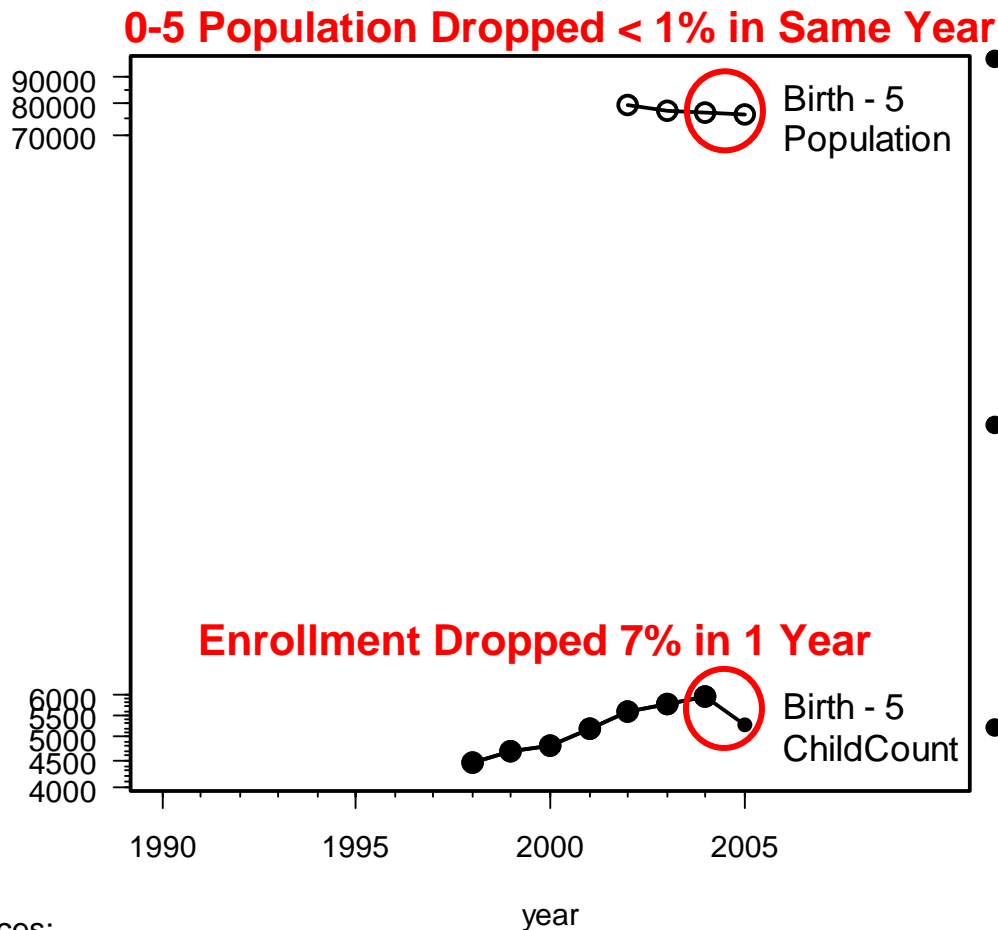
Maine (CDS) does better than over 90% of states in closing the gap between 3-5-year-old ID rates and school-age ID rates

Source:

https://www.ideadata.org/tables28th/ar_1-10.htm
(2004 data)

Charge 1:
Effectiveness,
efficiency, &
compliance of
current system

Enrollment Decline



- As Maine's preschool and school-age ID rates converged, 0-5 ChildCount climbed steadily.
- Sudden drop in CDS ChildCount in 2005 (over \$2M of DOE's projected savings).
- Enrollment drop is not explainable by 0-5 population decline (which was very slight)

Sources:

- www.ideadata.org
- Maine Dept of Education Plan for the Examination of the Child Development Services (CDS) System. (Report Submitted to AFA and EDU 11/30/05)
- Figure based on DOE's projections of 2005 ChildCount; annotations based on DOE's final figures for 2005 ChildCount.

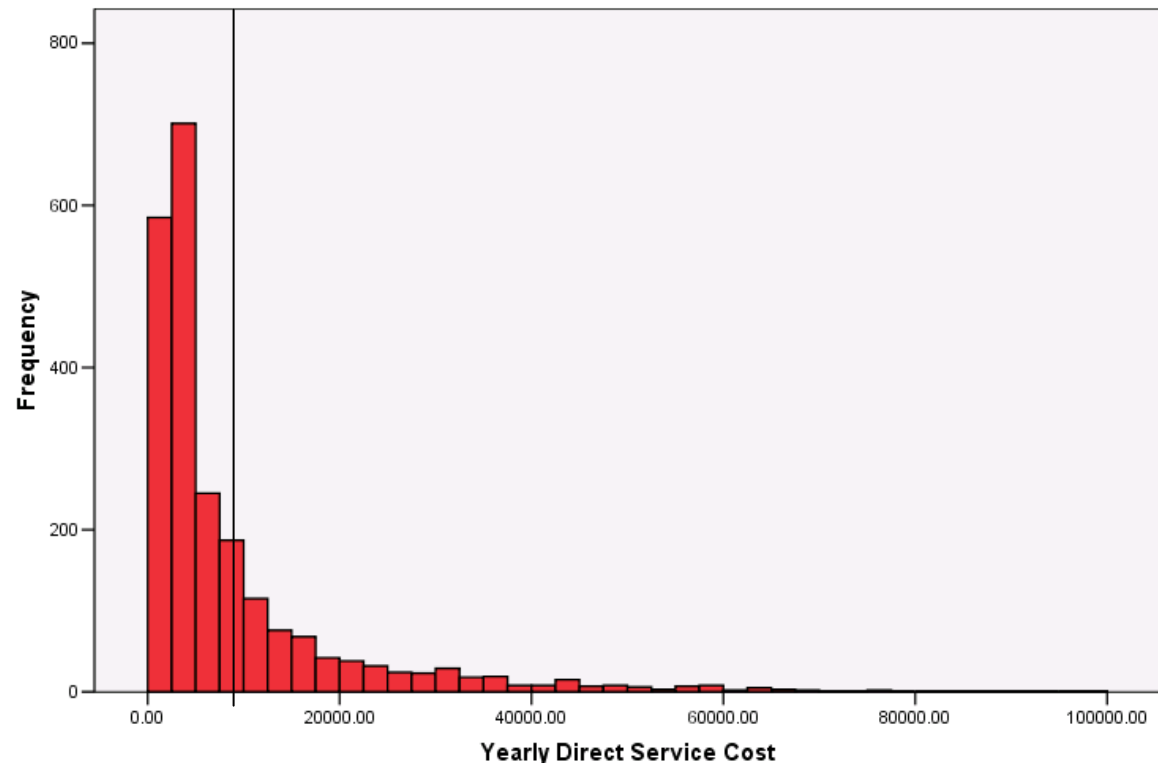
Charge 4:
Costs & benefits
of DOE's plan

Where's the Money?

A Revisitation of Data in MEPRI Report

Estimated Per-Child Costs in 2004 of Non-MaineCare Kids in CDS

- Most kids are way below mean cost.
- The money is in the expensive “high-needs” kids who cost way more than the mean.
- Would have to exclude many inexpensive kids to save substantial funds.



Source:

Allen D, & Harris W (2006, February). Preliminary analysis of CDS funding. Maine Education Policy Research Institute (MEPRI). Figure 5 (p 11)

Charge 4:
Cost & benefits of DOE's plan

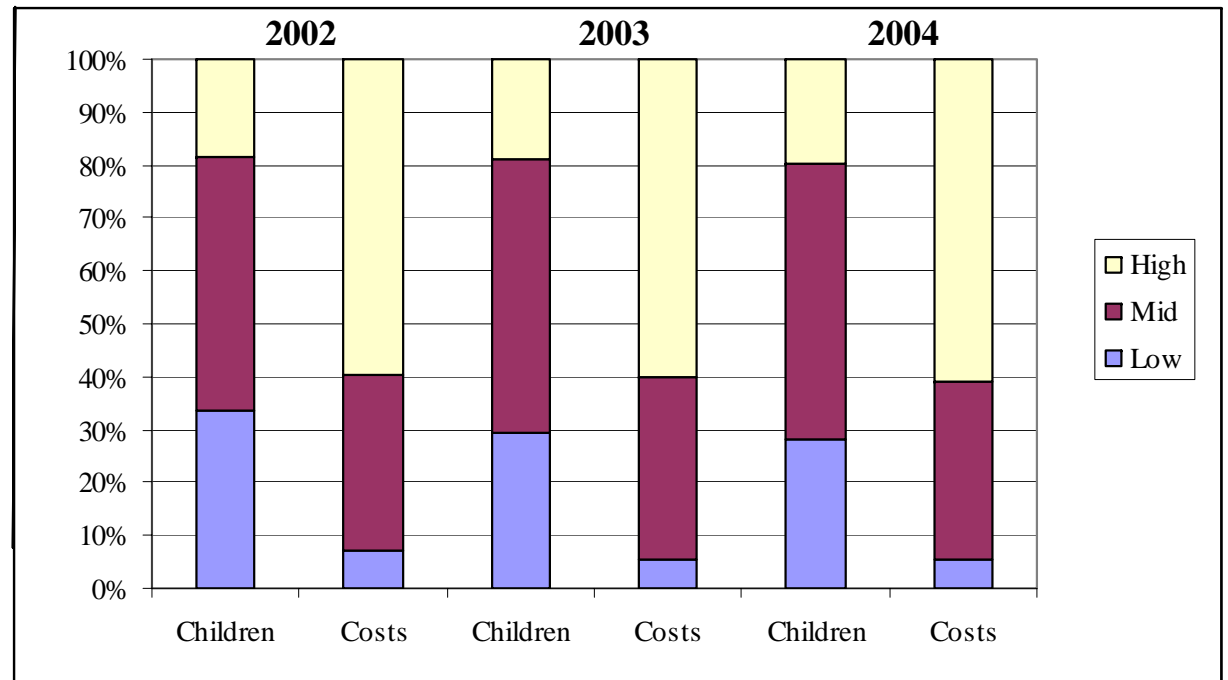
Where's the Money?

A Revisitation of Data in MEPRI Report

Estimated Per-Child Costs of Non-MaineCare Kids in CDS

2 of MEPRI's Key Findings on CDS:

- Lots of “cheap kids”
 - About 30% of kids get less than 2 hr/wk according to IFSPs.
 - These kids account for only about 5% of total estimated costs.
- A few “expensive kids”
 - About 20% of kids get more than 10 hr /wk according to IFSPs.
 - These kids make up about 60% of total estimated costs.



Source:

Allen D, & Harris W (2006, February). Preliminary analysis of CDS funding. Maine Education Policy Research Institute (MEPRI). Key findings on p 8, Figure 6 on p 12

Charge 4:
Cost & benefits of DOE's plan